

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119695 TOSEC 010214

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY EA:RHMILLER:AOA

APPROVED BY EA:JOZURHELLEN

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S - MR. EAGLEBURGER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119695 TOSEC 010214

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: AEMR, LA

SUBJECT: E & E LAOS

REF: SECTO 1103

1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOT RPT NOT ANNOUNCED TOTAL EVACUATION OF U.S. PERSONNEL FROM LAOS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS WE HAVE INDICATED THAT WE ARE REDUCING THE NUMBER OF OUR PEOPLE IN LAOS. ADDITIONALLY, EMBASSY VIENTIANE HAS INDICATED PUBLICLY THAT WE ARE CLOSING OUT PROVINCIAL AID OFFICES AND BRINGING OUR PEOPLE BACK TO VIENTIANE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS DESIRABLE TO GO INTO MORE DETAIL THAN THIS WITH THE PRESS.

2. EMBASSY VIENTIANE HAS BEEN UNDER INSTRUCTION FOR SOMETIME TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF U.S. PERSONNEL IN LAOS AND TO REPORT ITS SPECIFIC PLANS FOR ACCOMPLISHING THIS. YESTERDAY THE EMBASSY REPORTED THAT SOME 35 EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS HAVE
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PAGE 02 STATE 119695 TOSEC 010214

DEPARTED AND THAT BEGINNING TOMORROW CHARTER FLIGHTS ARE

EXPECTED TO CARRY OUT SOME 80 PER FLIGHT, HOPEFULLY AT LEAST
ON A ONE-PER-DAY BASIS. THE EMBASSY HAS PROMISED A FULLER
REPORT OF ITS PLANS BUT THAT REPORT HAS NOT YET BEEN RE-
CEIVED. WE DO NOT INTEND TO MAKE THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE
TO THE PRESS. INGERSOLL

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